



Russet Class Newsletter 7.1.19



A big well done to all the children for how well they settled back into school last week! Miss France and I had a wonderful couple of days with them, and the children were really pleased to be back in class with their friends, and sharing the excitement of their holiday news. Thank you for your continued support, not only with our random requests for donations of items, but also with learning at home, too.

A Few Reminders...

Please remember to return your child's library book each Monday, as this is when we make a visit to the library as a class. If you are unsure whether your child has one at home, let us know and we can check the record for you. With regard to reading, please do try to read the phonic based books with your child at least 3 times a week, as it really does make a difference. Please remember to sign the green reading record to show that you have done so. Lastly, please return the Year R Sound Books this week, so that we can update them with our new phonic resources. Thank you.



New Topic Area

This term the children will be taking part in lots of London themed learning, including finding out about famous places and landmarks, the royal family, the Great Fire of London and how London and fire-fighting has changed overtime. We worked with the children last week to change the role-play area into Pudding Lane bakery. If you happen to have any items that you think would be useful for this topic, we will happily make use of them, for example London themed small world toys, books and puzzles etc. The children asked about dressing up clothes, so if you happen to have any clothing that you think we could use, we know the children will enjoy wearing them. Thank you in advance! ☺



Our Learning this Week

This week we will introduce the sounds of sh and ch to the Year R children. These sounds are called consonant digraphs, and instead of sounding s and h separately, we only say the one sound, eg sh, or ch instead of c and h. Come and ask if you need any help with understanding this area. This website is really useful, especially now our phonics sessions are starting to get a little trickier:



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/the-alphablocks-guide-to-phonics>

The Year 1 children will continue to embed their phonics covered throughout their schooling, using them to read real and nonsense words, too. There will be quite an emphasis on this skill for Year 1 now, as later this year all Year 1 children will be screened in this area. Feel free to help at home with real and nonsense words, either making up your own words, or playing

along at: <http://www.ictgames.com/poopDeckPirates/index.html>

or <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/PicnicOnPluto.html>

In English we will make lots of links with our new topic area of London the Great Fire, taking part in a range of writing opportunities linked to our new theme. All children will be using their phonic skills to write sentences, with Year 1 aiming to master the use of capital letters and full stops in a longer piece of writing. In maths we will be finding out about the concept of time linked to days, weeks and months. The children will be ordering the days of the week and months of the year, and getting to know about how months can be grouped into seasons.

Year 1 children also need to know how to spell the days and months. Our Act of Worship theme this week is linked to Epiphany, and we will be welcoming the Family Trust into a whole school worship assembly on Thursday this week.

